

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-17 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 10 and 17 are independent.

Claims 1, 10, 11 and 13-15 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

II. Drawings

Since no objection has been received, Applicant assumes that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended the claims in order to correct minor typographical errors, and to place the claims in better form. The claim amendments are not being made in response to any statutory requirement for patentability, and have not been narrowed in scope. Instead, the claims have been amended merely to recite the subject matter therein more clearly.

IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wachi. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of steps in a servo method for an optical recording medium for performing a tracking servo and sled servo including the steps of: (a) detecting an amount of offset per track as moving an object lens of the optical pickup in a specified direction; and (b) performing the tracking servo by generating a tracking drive

signal as compensating for the amount of offset with respect to the tracking error signal during a normal servo operation. In addition, independent claim 17 recites a combination of steps in a servo method for an optical recording medium comprising the steps of: (a) detecting an amount of DC offset per track as moving an object lens of an optical pickup in a specified direction before a servo operation for recording/reproduction; and (b) performing the recording/reproduction by performing a tracking servo as compensating for the amount of DC offset per track with respect to a tracking error signal during the normal servo operation for the recording/reproduction.

Applicant respectfully submits that these combinations of steps as set forth in independent claims 1 and 17 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Wachi.

The Examiner states that Wachi shows that an amount of DC offset is detected by element 17A when moving an object lens of the optical pickup in a specified direction, that the tracking servo is performed by generating a tracking drive signal as compensating for the amount of offset with respect to the tracking error signal during a normal servo operation, and that adder 48A outputs the tracking drive signal compensated for the amount of offset. The Examiner refers Applicant to Figure 20 of Wachi.

Upon review of Fig. 20, and Col. 24, lines 28+, Applicant respectfully submits that the Wachi patent does not disclose the step of "detecting an

amount of offset per track...", and the subsequent step(s) recited in claim 1, as amended, and that the Wachi patent does not disclose the step of "detecting an amount of DC offset per track as moving an object lens of an optical pickup in a specified direction before a servo operation for recording/reproduction" and the subsequent step(s) recited in claim 17.

Specifically, the Wachi patent does not detect the DC offset per track recited in claim 1, and the DC offset per track before a servo operation recited in claim 17. In Wachi, the low-pass filter (49) provided in the offset canceling loop extracts a DC offset component included in the signal outputted from the adder (48A). There is no description about the detection of DC offset per track as in claim 1, and the detection of DC offset per track . . . before a servo operation . . . as in claim 17.

Applicant respectfully submits that the combinations of steps as set forth in independent claims 1 and 17 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Wachi, for the reasons explained above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

V. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 10-16 are allowed, and that claims 2-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application. However, claims 2-9 have not been rewritten in independent form at this time, since it is believed that independent claim 1 from which these claims depend is allowable.

VI. Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone James T. Eller, Jr., Registration No. 39,538, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

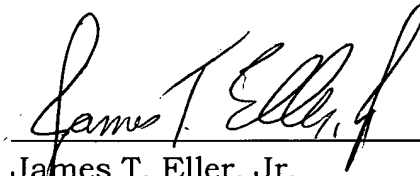
Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By:



James T. Eller, Jr.
Reg. No.: 39,538

JTE:mmi

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
Telephone: (703)205-8000